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15 COURSE M - PRESENTING EXPERT TESTIMONY

15.1 Scope

- 15.1.1 Questioned Documents Law (approximately 33 hours)
- 15.1.2 The Virginia Court System (approximately 8 hours)
- 15.1.3 Visual Aids in the Courtroom (approximately 42 hours)
- 15.1.4 Presenting Expert Testimony (approximately 48 hours)
- 15.1.5 Observation of Expert Testimony (approximately 24 hours)
- 15.1.6 Examination/PE (approximately 4 hours)

15.2 Objective

To familiarize the student with the legal aspects of document examination, the Commonwealth of Virginia court systems, and the process of presenting effective expert testimony

15.3 Methods of Instruction

Self-directed, practicals, demonstration, lecture

15.4 References

- 15.4.1 Questioned Documents Law
 - Moenssens, Andre A., Moses, Ray Edward, and Inbau, Fred E., <u>Scientific Evidence in Criminal Cases</u>, The Foundation Press, Inc., Mineola, NY 1973, Chap 1
 - Technical articles (as assigned)
- 15.4.2 The Virginia Court System
 - Friend, Charles E., <u>The Law of Evidence in Virginia</u>, The Michie Company, Law Publishers, Charlottesville, VA, 1977, Chap 14, 15, and pp 558-571
 - Technical articles (as assigned)
- 15.4.3 Visual Aids in the Courtroom
 - Technical articles (as assigned)
- 15.4.4 Presenting Expert Testimony
 - Conway, James V.P., <u>Evidential Documents</u>, Charles C. Thomas Publisher, Springfield, IL, 1959, pp 234-256
 - Hilton, Ordway, <u>Scientific Examination of Questioned Documents</u>, Elsevier North Holland, Inc., NY, 1982, Chap 18, 19
 - Ellen, David, <u>The Scientific Examination of Documents: Methods and Techniques</u>, Second Edition, Taylor and Francis, Ltd., Chap 11
 - Harrison, Wilson R., Suspect Documents, Frederick A. Praeger, NY, 1958, Chap 15
 - Osborn, Albert S., <u>Questioned Documents</u>, Boyd Printing Company, Albany NY, Second Edition, 1929, Chap 33, 34
 - Mauet, Thomas A., <u>Fundamentals of Trial Techniques</u>, Little, Brown & Company, Boston, MA, 1980, pp 135-159
 - Technical articles (as assigned)

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15.5 Standards

- 15.5.1 The student must be able to outline the organization of the criminal court system of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- 15.5.2 The student must be able to explain the role of the expert witness in a criminal trial.
- 15.5.3 The student must be able to prepare visual aids for the effective presentation of expert witness testimony.
- 15.5.4 The student must prepare a personal curriculum vitae (CV), as well as lists of qualifying and direct examination questions.

15.6 Verification

- 15.6.1 Student must score at least 80 on a written test.
- 15.6.2 Student must complete a practical exercise (to the instructor's satisfaction) consisting of a mock court.
- 15.6.3 Student will have 160 hours to complete Course M.

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